

**MONKEY MIND**

**A Musical**

Book by Terri Weiss

Music by Gerardo Herrera Benavides

Lyrics by Bill Berry

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

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## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**Monkey Mind The Musical** was originally produced at the Hollywood Fringe directed by John Coppola featuring the following cast:

Lacy	Darcy Rose Byrnes
Frank	Corey Page
Jeanie	Karla Kelly
Monkey Negative	Fernando Christopher
Monkey Positive	JD Mata
Monkey Crazy	Tori Cott
Brandon	Cameron Gilliam

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

### **CHARACTERS:**

**Lacy**, bright, precocious, 13 years old.

**Frank**, her father, around 40.

**Jeanie**, singing teacher, late 30's.

**Brandon** , Jeanie's nephew, 15 years old.

**Monkey Positive**, over the top, self-confidence

**Monkey Crazy**, off the wall.

**Monkey Negative**, hurtful & mean.

### A NOTE ON YEAR:

The year that the show is being performed.

### PLACE

A small suburb of any large metropolitan city

# MONKEY MIND

## A MUSICAL

*LIGHTS UP on a modest apartment simply furnished. LACY PHILLIPS (13) sits at the table, surrounded by books and a laptop. MONKEY NEGATIVE, MONKEY POSITIVE, MONKEY CRAZY act as LACY's thoughts throughout the play. They taunt her throughout. Only Lacy and the audience can see and hear them. MONKEYS gather round Lacy who's trying to study. WE HEAR: "We are all the many thoughts that you can hear within your brain" as the MONKEYS come out and talk to the audience.*

### Song 1: "Opening "

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** (sings)  
I'M THE NEGATIVE IN YOUR BRAIN

**MONKEY CRAZY.**  
I'M THE CRAZY ONE,  
DRIVING YOU INSANE

**MONKEY POSITIVE.**  
I'M THE GOOD ONE LOUD & CLEAR

**ALL MONKEYS.**  
SCRAMBLING THOUGHTS, WHISPERED IN YOUR EAR

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**  
A MONKEY MINDS THAT'S IN CONTROL.  
CAN RIP APART YOUR VERY SOUL

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**MONKEY CRAZY.**

WATCH US CLOSELY AND YOU WILL SEE  
LACY'S SMART BUT HARDLY FREE

**MONKEY POSITIVE**

CONCENTRATE OH YOU  
MUST GET YOUR HOME  
WORK DONE,  
YOU CAN BECAUSE IT'S  
LATE  
AND YOU CAN MAKE  
YOUR DADDY HAPPY.  
IF YOU TRY THERE IS  
BLUE SKY  
IF YOU CAN JUST BE  
STRONG

**MONKEY NEGATIVE &  
CRAZY.**

WE'RE THE  
MONKEYS THAT WILL  
DRIVE YOU CRAZY. YOU  
CAN NEVER REST CAUSE  
WE'RE NOT LAZY.  
JUMBLING YOUR MIND  
TIL YOU GET HAZY  
WE CONTROL YOUR  
BRAIN AND NEVER STOP  
WE'RE THE MONKEYS  
THAT WILL DRIVE YOU  
CRAZY. YOU CAN  
NEVER REST CAUSE  
WE'RE NOT LAZY  
WE WATCH YOU JUST  
LIKE A TRAFFIC COP

*(MONKEYS surround Lacy)*

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**

BOYS DON'T LIKE YOU CAUSE YOU'RE TOO DARN SMART

**MONKEY CRAZY .**

SHOOT AN ARROW IN THEIR HEAD  
AND YOU BECOME THE TART

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**

YOU'LL NEVER HAVE THE MONEY

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FOR NEW CLOTHES NEXT YEAR

**MONKEY POSITIVE.**  
JUST STAY OUT OF FEAR

**MONKEY CRAZY.**  
SEEMS LIKE THE WORLD IS GOING CRAZY

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**  
WHY TRY WHEN YOU CAN BE LAZY

**MONKEY CRAZY.**  
WATCH TV TILL YOU GET  
ALL HAZY

**MONKEYS**  
YOUR DADDY'S SO  
DEPRESSED HE NEVER

**MONKEY CRAZY.**  
SMILES AT YOU BUT YOU  
KNOW  
THAT HE CARES FOR YOU,  
BE CUZ HE 'S BLUE  
IF YOU WOULD WEAR  
MORE MAKE UP,  
HE MIGHT LOOK AT YOU  
AND NOTICE YOU  
AND SEE THAT YOU ARE  
HERE

**MONKEY NEGATIVE &  
CRAZY**

WE'RE THE MONKEYS  
THAT WILL DRIVE YOU  
CRAZY.

YOU CAN NEVER REST  
CAUSE WE'RE NOT LAZY.  
JUMBLING YOUR MIND  
TIL YOU GET HAZY.

WE CONTROL YOUR  
BRAIN AND NEVER STOP  
WE'RE THE MONKEYS  
THAT WILL DRIVE YOU  
CRAZY

YOU CAN NEVER REST  
CAUSE WE'RE NOT LAZY.  
WE WATCH YOU JUST  
LIKE A TRAFFIC COP

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**MONKEY CRAZY.**

I JUST WANT A CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM BAR

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**

SO YOU'LL GET FAT

**MONKEY CRAZY.**

AND WHO CARES ABOUT THAT

**MONKEY POSITIVE.**

DANCE CLASS MADE YOUR STOMACH  
NICE AND FLAT. YOU'RE PRETTY NOW

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**

OH, SUDDENLY WE'RE SO HIGH BROW

**MONKEY POSITIVE.**

YOU SHOULD WEAR YOUR HAIR UP TIGHT

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**

YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU'RE A FRIGHT

**MONKEY POSITIVE.**

YOU WERE YOUR MOTHER'S PURE DELIGHT

**MONKEY CRAZY.**

BUT YOUR MOTHER'S SOUL TOOK FLIGHT

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**

WHY'D SHE HAVE TO LEAVE YOUR SIDE.  
ALL THE TEARS YOU CRIED AND CRIED

**MONKEY CRAZY.**

GOTTA STOP YOUR HEAD FROM PLAYIN'



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GET YOUR HOMEWORK DONE, JUST SAYING

**MONKEYS .**

WE'RE THE MONKEYS THAT  
WILL DRIVE YOU CRAZY  
YOU CAN NEVER REST  
CAUSE WE'RE NOT LAZY  
JUMBLING YOUR MIND TIL  
YOU GET HAZY

WE CONTROL YOUR BRAIN  
AND NEVER STOP

WE'RE THE MONKEYS THAT  
WILL DRIVE YOU CRAZY  
YOU CAN NEVER REST  
CAUSE WE'RE NOT LAZY  
JUMBLING YOUR MIND TIL  
YOU GET HAZY

WE CONTROL YOUR BRAIN  
AND NEVER STOP

WE'RE THE MONKEYS THAT  
WILL DRIVE YOU CRAZY  
YOU CAN NEVER REST  
CAUSE WE'RE NOT LAZY WE  
WATCH

YOU JUST LIKE A TRAFFIC  
COP WE WATCH YOU JUST  
LIKE A TRAFFIC COP

**MONKEY POSITIVE.**

JUST BE STRONG  
YOUR DAD WILL BE  
UNHAPPY  
IF YOU DON'T GET AN "A"  
YOUR MOM WOULD FIND A  
WAY  
BUT THAT WAS YESTERDAY  
CAUSE SHE WOULD WANT,  
YES SHE WOULD WANT, YES  
SHE WOULD WANT YES  
SHE WOULD WANT YOU  
STRONG

*(End of Song 1: MONKEY CRAZY prances across the stage and announces)*

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Lacy's house

*LACY's father FRANK walks in carrying his phone.*

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**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Kiss head.

*HE kisses Lacy's head.*

**FRANK.** Hi sweetheart.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Sit down, dad. *(HE does. Opens phone.)*

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Cowboys or Lakers.

**FRANK.** The Lakers lost again!

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** And now he looks through the mail.

*FRANK looks through mail.*

**LACY.** Any publishers?

**FRANK.** Yes, two more that won't have the good fortune to publish my novel.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Publishers 23, dad zero.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** He just has to find the right one.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Face it, the book sucks.

**LACY.** Someone will buy it, it's great.

**FRANK.** Yeah.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** If it's great, why does he get nothing but rejections?

**LACY.** How's the new job?

**FRANK.** I have to keep reminding myself that writing technical manuals beats cleaning toilets.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** That's a good place for your novel!

**LACY.** And the newspaper?

**FRANK.** The internet's killing newspapers. I might not have a job soon. So, I'm stuck with a job I detest. Ever since your mother died, I feel like I'm on a tread mill going nowhere.

*LACY looks in the kitchen.*

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Didn't buy food. What are you going to eat?

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**LACY.** You didn't go to the store?

**FRANK.** I'll go tomorrow when I get my check. *(Changing the subject)*  
How'd you do on that math test?

**LACY.** Aced it.

**FRANK.** That's my girl, one step closer to that scholarship. Have to start early.

**LACY/MONKEYS.** I KNOW dad.

**FRANK.** It's important since money is scarce...

**LACY/MONKEYS.** I KNOW DAD!

**FRANK.** And how was YOUR day?

**LACY.** *(Excited he asked.)* Umm...good! We chose teams for softball and I was picked third and played first base. We were tied and then the bell rang. *(She looks - he's not listening.)* I'm in a new study group on Saturday so I moved my show at the Rest Home to 3:00 PM.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** *(Sarcastic.)* He's really listening, isn't he!

*MONKEYS go to Frank and wave their hands in front of his eyes.*

**LACY.** We took all the banned books from the library and burned them on the front lawn. Then we lined up all the teachers one by one and pulled their pants down. And we had a contest for who could hold their breath the longest. One kid died. He won.

**FRANK.** That's great, sweetheart.

**LACY.** What am I supposed to fix for dinner. You didn't go to the store. So we're eating beans again?

**FRANK.** You eat the beans. I'll just have ice cream.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Just pretend everything is fine. Everything is fine.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** You cleaned the whole house and he didn't even notice.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** He doesn't care what you're going through.

**LACY.** Fresh diabetes coming up!

**FRANK.** Don't be a pest!

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Everything is fine, Everything is fine.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Everything is NOT fine.

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**MONKEY CRAZY.** Beans and ice cream, beans and ice cream.

**LACY.** You didn't buy my tampons.

**FRANK.** Can't you borrow them at school?

**LACY.** DaaaaaaaaaddddD!

**FRANK.** *(Getting angry)* Hey! I'm doing the best I can here, all right? I'm working two jobs. I'm tired and I...

**LACY.** Fine, don't lose your temper.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Everything is fine, Everything is fine.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Everything is NOT fine.

**FRANK.** What, what, what?

**LACY.** Dad, you just seem so depressed.

**FRANK.** I'm sorry. It's a curse... it's just that the bills are stacking up. Your mother was a partner in this thing called life and I'm not doing a good job alone, so... it's just...

**LACY.** We'll make it somehow; I'll start a life of crime.

**FRANK.** What?

**LACY.** Oh THAT, you hear! *(LACY opens her phone. The MONKEYS huddle around her.)*

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** *(VERY excited.)* Top Teen Talent to get One Hundred Thousand Dollars! That's You! Plus a chance at a recording contract with a major record label.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** If you're between the ages of ten and seventeen go online to American Youth Idol and get your application made out today.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Everybody says you're great. You can win.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Well not everybody.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Why would people say it if it isn't true?

**LACY.** *(Excited.)* Would a hundred thousand dollars make you happy?

**FRANK.** *(Laughs derisively.)* Yeah, a hundred thousand dollars would make me happy.

*LACY pokes at her phone, pushing it in his face.*

**FRANK.** Hey!

**LACY.** If I enter this contest and win, everything would be all right, right?

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**FRANK.** Money is not the answer to every problem.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** It's not?

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** But it helps!

**LACY.** But it would help, right?

**FRANK.** Sweetheart you already have too much on your plate with homework and singing for the living dead, no!

**LACY.** They're called senior citizens, thank you very much, and singing for them makes me happy because it makes them happy.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** You're a great singer. You'd win for sure!

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Maybe you're the next Ariana. *(SHE flips her hair.)*

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** But sometimes you sing really flat.

**LACY.** *(Hurt.)* Don't you think I could win?

**FRANK.** I am not going to chauffeur you around to auditions.

**LACY.** It's just one audition?

*FRANK ignores her. LACY tries to be up-beat.*

**LACY.** A hundred thousand dollars, Dad. Let me do it? Please?

**FRANK.** No.

**LACY.** *(Furious.)* Ahhh! I can't believe you! It'd fix all our problems.

**FRANK.** *(Laughs derisively.)* Oh to be so simple minded.

**LACY.** Just what's that supposed to mean?

**FRANK.** To think winning a contest would fix everything.

**LACY.** I KNOW it's not going to fix everything, but it would give us some money, which is what you seem to be worried about all the time.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** You work your fingers to the bone and he can't drive you to one audition?

**LACY.** You can't drive me to one audition?

**FRANK.** *(Pleading.)* Can you not make a big deal out of this.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** The Titanic, THAT'S a big deal.

**LACY.** I haven't asked you for one thing since momma died.

**FRANK.** Look, if you did win, you'd have to sign your life away and I'm not for that.

**LACY.** But we'd have a hundred thousand dollars so what would it matter?

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**FRANK.** I said No.

*LACY glowers at him.*

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** If you were in heaven with momma, no more problems.

**LACY.** (*Furious.*) Momma would have let me!

**FRANK.** You know what, maybe she would have. But she's not here and you get me.

**LACY.** I hate you!

**FRANK.** Yeah? Well that's good. (*Leaves.*)

**MONKEYS.** Throw yourself on the couch. (*LACY throws herself down.*)

**MONKEYS.** Kick your feet.

*LACY kicks her feet.*

**MONKEYS.** Punch your fists.

*(LACY punches her fists.)*

**MONKEYS .** Scream!

*(LACY Screams.)*

### Song 2: "Hate Song"

**LACY.** (*sings*)

IF I DIED

THAT WOULD TEACH HIM

I WOULD LAUGH AT HIM

EVERY TIME HE CRIED

ONLY HAS A CONVERSATION WHEN HE'S IN THE MOOD

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**MONKEY CRAZY.**

ALL THAT MATTERS IS HIS BOOK  
AND THAT YOU CAN CLEAN AND COOK

**LACY.**

MAYBE IF I'M GONE  
THAT MIGHT REACH HIM

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.**

DOESN'T LISTEN  
DOESN'T CARE  
DOESN'T MATTER THAT YOU'RE THERE

**LACY.**

HE NEVER UNDERSTANDS  
IF HE COULD ONLY SEE  
HOW GREAT OUR LIFE COULD BE  
HE'D LET ME TAKE THIS CHANCE  
BUT NO!

**LACY & MONKEYS.**

I HATE HIM, I HATE HIM,

**LACY.**

TELL ME DAD, DON'T YOU TRUST ME?

**MONKEY POSITIVE.**

HE HAS BEEN A LITTLE STRESSED  
SO, HE HASN'T BEEN HIS BEST

**LACY.** I know it and I get it - but still I'm pissed!

**LACY & MONKEYS.** I HATE HIM, I HATE HIM

**LACY.** I'M NOT A LITTLE GIRL

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HE'S THE MEANEST DAD IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD

**LACY & MONKEYS.** I HATE IT, I  
HATE IT, I HATE IT

**LACY.** I WISH HE THOUGHT LIKE MOM  
CAUSE SHE WOULD FULLY SEE  
POTENTIAL HERE FOR ME  
TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT I'M THE BOMB!

**MONKEYS.** I'M THE BOMB!

**LACY.** MY LIFE IS FULL OF "CANT'S"  
WHEN ALL I EVER WANTED WAS A CHANCE  
USED TO BE SO FUN!

**MONKEYS.** USED TO BE SO FUN  
I HATE IT I HATE IT

**MONKEYS.** YOU'RE NOT A LITTLE GIRL

**LACY.** HE'S THE MEANEST DAD  
IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD  
I HATE IT, I HATE IT

**MONKEYS.** I HATE IT

**LACY/MONKEYS.** IT SUCKS IT REALLY DOES

**LACY.** I MISS THE FUN WE HAD  
I WANT MY LIFE BACK THE WAY IT WAS

**LACY & MONKEYS.** I HATE IT I HATE IT, I HATE IT



## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

*FRANK comes back.*

**FRANK.** Lacy! I'm sorry, listen, listen, I don't wanna fight. (Frank kisses her head) Let me drive you to the Rest Home.

**LACY.** No thanks. I'll just take the bus. It's fine.

**MONKEY CRAZY .** But he said he'd drive you!

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Watch the Dodgers, be happy.

*LACY and MONKEYS stomp out. MUSIC CUE ON DOOR CLOSE. Frank sighs.*

### Song 3: "I Keep Expecting You"

**FRANK** (*sings*)

HELLO AGAIN MY LOVE  
I WONDER HOW YOU'VE BEEN  
I'M STILL A BIT CONFUSED  
STILL JUST SINKING IN  
EVERYONE HAS GRIEVED AND MOVED ALONG  
EVERYONE BUT YOU KNOW WHO  
I'M WALKING ROUND IN CIRCLES  
STILL MISSING LIFE WITH YOU  
IT'S BEEN SO HARD TO CARRY ON  
STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THAT YOU'RE GONE  
AND I KEEP EXPECTING YOU  
TO WALK AROUND THE PLACE  
WITH A SMILE UPON YOUR FACE  
AND I KEEP EXPECTING YOU  
IN A SCARLET DRESS WITH ROSES IN YOUR HAIR  
AND I LOVED THE FACT THAT YOU HAD SUCH A FLAIR

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HAVE YOU SEEN OUR LITTLE GIRL  
SHE'S LIKE YOU DOWN TO THE CORE  
JUST AS STUBBORN AND PIGHEADED  
AND EVERY DAY I LOVE HER MORE  
AND THOUGH THE TRUTH IS CLEAR TO SEE  
MY MIND PLAYS TRICKS ON ME  
AND I KEEP EXPECTING YOU  
AND I COME TO WHERE YOU STAND  
AND YOU NOD AND TAKE MY HAND  
AND I KEEP EXPECTING YOU  
AND AROUND THE ROOM WE DANCE WITHOUT A CARE  
AND I THANKED THE GODS THAT YOU WERE MY AFFAIR

**FRANK.** I've learned about hair, make-up kits and drawing a bath. I help with her homework as long as it's not science or math. It's been more than a year and I'm still so fragile and small.

AND DEATHLY AFRAID THAT SOMEDAY SHE'LL  
HAVE NO ONE AT ALL

I KEEP EXPECTING YOU...  
I THINK I MISS YOU MOST BECAUSE  
YOU WERE THE BEST OF WHO I WAS  
AND I KEEP EXPECTING YOU...  
WE HAD SO MANY DREAMS WE HOPED TO SHARE  
AND I KEEP EXPECTING YOU...  
AND IF DREAMS WERE DIMES I'D BE A MILLIONAIRE  
BUT NO ONE EVER SAID THAT LIFE IS FAIR

### SCENE 2

*Mountain View, a rest home. MONKEY'S enter. CRAZY crosses stage announcing.*

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Mountain View... A Rest Home.

*LACY enters center, facing audience. MONKEYS follow.*

**LACY.** I'm so sorry I was late today; I want you to know that singing here at the Rest Home is my favorite thing to do. I love singing for you guys. You're always such a great audience, especially you. *(She points to the audience.)*

*BRANDON MCINTYRE, cute, unkempt, with a bad boy image, comes in, stands by the door, and watches. LACY doesn't notice Brandon.*

**LACY.** But now it's time to say good bye...

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** If they don't die first.

**LACY.** So, promise me you'll stay well okay? And I will see you all next Saturday.

*LACY turns and sees Brandon.*

*Brandon walks to her.*

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Ooooo... Love at first sight! He's coming over.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Don't blush. Don't stammer. Just act cool.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** *(Swoons)* Going, going gone...

**BRANDON.** So, you're the angel that sings every Saturday?

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Angel? Not according to dad!

**LACY.** I'm no angel but I DO sing every Saturday.

**BRANDON.** My gramps talks about you all the time. Trying to guilt trip me cause you're here every weekend and I'm not.

**LACY.** Oh? Which one is he?

**BRANDON.** *(BRANDON points into audience.)* Mr. McIntyre. The one right over there.

**LACY.** *(Waves)* Oh yeah, I know him. He's sweet.

**BRANDON.** You sing a lot like Scarlet Channing.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** *(Dancing)* Woo-Hoo. I told you so!

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**LACY.** (*Pretending not to care*) Thanks! I think she's really great!

**BRANDON.** You gotta be careful of those high notes though. It sounds like you might be using a chest mix instead of a head mix and that could get you in trouble.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** I LIKE trail mix!

**LACY.** Huh?

**BRANDON.** You could get nodes.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** What are nodes?

**LACY.** (*Concerned.*) Nodes?

**BRANDON.** Calluses on your vocal cords.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** What are you talking about, Maria Callus is great.

**BRANDON.** Yeah, they have to be surgically removed and then you can't sing for months and sometimes forever.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** That's not Maria Callus.

**LACY.** How do you know the difference between a chest mix and a head mix?

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** YOUUUUU don't.

**BRANDON.** Does your throat ever get sore after you've been singing?

**LACY.** (*Scared*) Sometimes.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** You've ruined your voice.

**BRANDON.** Need to be careful. It's all I'm sayin'.

**LACY.** (*Dismissive but scared*) Yeah, yeah, okay. (*Lacy starts to leave obviously upset.*)

**BRANDON.** (*BRANDON grabs her arm.*) Look, I wouldn't have mentioned it but my aunt is a vocal coach and she taught Scarlet Channing.

**LACY.** She did?

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** She teaches stars!

**BRANDON.** Yeah, Jeanie Macintyre. (*Points to self*) Brandon Macintyre.

**LACY.** Lacy Phillips. (*BRANDON fumbles in his pocket for a business card and gives it to Lacy.*)

**BRANDON.** Yeah, so uh, in case you ever want a singing lesson, she's great.

**LACY.** Thanks. (*THEY stare at each other.*)

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**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Ooooo! He likes you! He likes you! (*There's an awkward silence.*)

**BRANDON.** Well, I gotta go hang out with the gramps.

**LACY.** Right, right.

**BRANDON.** See ya round! (*Goes back.*)

*LACY looks at the card, then after Brandon, smiling.*

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Brandon Macintyre...

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Lacy Macintyre....

### TRANSITION:

*(Walking across stage to next scene.)*

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Your throat DOES get sore. (*LACY frowns.*)

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** He said you sound like Scarlet. (*LACY smiles*)

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** You gotta see a doctor.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** You sing perfectly.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Hospital, that'll get your dad's attention.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** You had a sore throat just the other day.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** (*Announcer voice.*) Sore throat? Try Chloraseptic in new Cherry flavor!

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Calluses have to be cut out!

**MONKEY CRAZY.** (*Continuing thought from before.*) Or raspberry flavor! Raspberry.. Raspy! You sound raspy.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Raspy's good for R & B. Gospel.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Raspy's good for blues.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** You can't sing blues if you're a teenager.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** You haven't been miserable enough yet.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Your mother died. You're qualified.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Oooo, hurry, there's the bus! (*THE MONKEYS chatter in a cacophony.*)

*LACY runs out. MONKEYS follow.*

# MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

## SCENE 3

*Lacy's House. MONKEY'S enter. CRAZY crosses stage announcing.*

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Lacy's house

*FRANK sits. LACY and the MONKEYS storm in. FRANK has newspaper.*

**LACY.** Dad! Dad, I've gotta to see a doctor!

**FRANK.** (*Alarmed*) What? What's wrong?

**LACY.** I'm afraid I'm ruining my voice.

**FRANK.** (*Relaxes*) Oh, that's ridiculous.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Brandon's singing teacher then.

**LACY.** Then a singing teacher, to make sure I'm singing right.

**FRANK.** Sweetheart, you sing perfectly.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** What does he know!

**LACY.** Seriously though, I'm afraid I may not be and if I went to a teacher then I'd know for sure.

**FRANK.** Lacy, you know we can't afford extras right now.

**LACY.** You go to Starbucks every day, that's an extra!

**FRANK.** That is different. It's stimulating. Plus, writing is my life.

**LACY.** Right! And singing is MY life.

**FRANK.** No, it's not.

**LACY.** Yes, it is!

**FRANK.** It is not!

**LACY.** Yes, it is!

**FRANK.** School is your life. Good grades. College prep.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** A singing nerd!

**LACY.** You don't even know me! All I want is singing and you don't even care.

**FRANK.** I do care.

**LACY.** You're always in a bad mood.

**FRANK.** I never thought I'd be raising a girl alone.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Well, you suck at it.

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**FRANK.** If the paper folds we'll be living meal to meal and I'm at my wits end, so...

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Singing makes you feel good.

**LACY.** That's why I sing, it makes me feel better... and if I could win this contest, it'd make everything better.

**FRANK.** Ya right!

**LACY.** Maybe I could win but I need lessons.

**FRANK.** Lacy, stop.

**LACY.** One, just one lesson.

**FRANK.** I told you, we can't afford lessons.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** One lesson?

**LACY.** One lesson?

**FRANK.** One lesson?

**LACY.** Just to see if I'm singing right or not.

**FRANK.** I guess I could...

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Of course you could!

**LACY.** It'll be my birthday and Christmas present!

**FRANK.** Okay! Okay, One lesson.

**MONKEYS.** WOO HOO!

**FRANK.** You really know how to push my buttons kid.

*LACY gives her Dad the business card and a kiss.*

### SCENE 4

*Jeanie's Studio. MONKEY'S enter. CRAZY crosses stage announcing.*

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Jeanie's studio

### Song 4: "One With Me"

*BRANDON sings for Jeanie*

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**JEANIE.** And we are going to get you to let go! All right?

**BRANDON.** Ya! Okay

**JEANIE.** Good, so... Support, Shoulders back, and hit it, hit it, come on.

**BRANDON.** *(sings)*

I'M GONNA BE A MIRACLE

**JEANIE.** Come on!

**BRANDON.**

I'M GONNA FINALLY FIND SUCCESS

I'M GONNA PAINT A MASTERPIECE

**JEANIE.** Let Goooooo!

**BRANDON.**

GONNA GET OUT OF THIS MESS

**JEANIE.** Let go of your stage fright, good!

**BRANDON.**

SO I'M WANNA BE A SUPER STAR

AND TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH MY GUITAR

BUT I AM MISSING JUST ONE THING

AND IT'S YOU, YOU'RE MY EVERYTHING

COME ON! COME ON! COME ON! AND RUN WITH ME

COME ON! COME ON! CUZ WE'RE YOUNG AND FREE

COME ON! COME ON! COME ON!

*BRANDON does a rather sexual move. Jeanie shakes her head.*

**JEANIE.** No, no, too much.

**BRANDON.** COME ON! COME ON! COME ON!



## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

HAVE FUN WITH ME  
COME ON, BE ONE WITH ME,  
BE ONE WITH ME

*WE HEAR a KNOCK on the door. BRANDON stops and lets LACY, MONKEYS and FRANK in. The MONKEYS run around examining everything.*

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** He's here! It's destiny.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Fools believe in destiny.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Romeo, Romeo, my Romeo! (*MONKEY CRAZY swoons.*)

**FRANK.** Are we early?

**JEANIE.** No, no, we just finished up his lesson. I was coaxing him to let go and he really did.

**BRANDON.** (*Nonchalant, to Lacy.*) Hey! Jeanie said you were coming.

**JEANIE.** You must be Lacy.

**LACY.** Hi.

**JEANIE.** Brandon told me you have a great voice but he didn't tell me how cute you are.

*LACY blushes, shaking JEANIE's hand. Brandon shakes his head, embarrassed.*

**MONKEY CRAZY.** He loves you, he loves you!

**LACY.** Thanks. This is my dad.

**FRANK.** (*JEANIE shakes hands with Frank.*)

Frank Phillips.

**JEANIE.** The writer, Frank Phillips, from the Times?

**FRANK.** Yes.

**JEANIE.** (*To Frank.*) Jeanie MacIntyre. When I got the paper, I used to read your column all the time.

**FRANK.** Right but now you get your news from the web, right?

**JEANIE.** (*Guilty.*) Ah... Yeah, I do. Should I feel guilty?

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**FRANK.** (*Disheartened laugh.*) No, it's a sign of the times... and the Post and the Herald... which kind of leads to the next topic. We're only here for one lesson.

**JEANIE.** Oh?... Okay.

**LACY.** Dad, this is Brandon.

**BRANDON.** Mr. Phillips. (*They shake.*)

**FRANK.** (*With a panicked look at Lacy.*) Who is this?

**LACY.** Brandon. I met him at the rest home. He's the one who told me about Jeannie and gave me her card.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** I knew it was fate!

**JEANIE.** I hope we didn't keep you waiting.

**FRANK.** No, No, not at all, you're right on time.

**LACY.** (*To Brandon.*) So that was you singing?

**BRANDON.** Yeah.

**LACY.** What's that song?

**BRANDON.** It's called One With Me.

**LACY.** I like it.

**JEANIE.** (*Proudly.*) He wrote it.

**LACY.** (*To Brandon.*) You didn't!

**BRANDON.** Ya, Did.

**LACY.** Sweet.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** A match made in heaven.

**JEANIE.** (*To Frank.*) Please... come with me to my office. I have some paperwork to do before the lesson. (*JEANIE leads FRANK off stage.*)

**LACY.** So... What do you do for fun?

**BRANDON.** You know, whatever.

**LACY.** Whatever?

**BRANDON.** Whatever!

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Sit next to him. A little closer.

**LACY.** Nice weather we're having.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** What a dumb thing to say.

**BRANDON.** Ya, I like the hotter weather.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** That was pretty dumb too!

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** It's not as hot as she could be for you!

**BRANDON.** (*Check the time.*) Hey, I gotta bail. Gotta appointment downtown.

**MONKEYS.** No!

**BRANDON.** I'll see yeah around! Good luck with the lesson.

**MONKEY POSITIVE .** Wish the lesson was with you.

*BRANDON starts to leave.*

**LACY.** Later. Hey! so do you have a car?

**BRANDON.** No, I have a Scooter, Why?

**LACY.** I... I was just curious!

**BRANDON.** I'll give you a ride sometime.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** (*Swooning.*) Into eternity.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Heart Super Sonic, boom, boom, boom!

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Don't blush stupid, he'll think you're a dork!

*JEANIE and FRANK come back in.*

**BRANDON.** See ya.

**LACY.** Later. (*LACY looks longingly after Brandon as he leaves.*)

**FRANK.** (*Looks from Lacy to Brandon with shock and disapproval.*)  
How old is he?

**JEANIE.** Old enough to do all the things you did when you were that age.

**FRANK.** You wanna give me a heart attack, right?

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Did already!

**JEANIE.** (*Laughing.*) Be careful the seeds you plant, they manifest. But you can relax, he's a good boy. Anyway, we're gonna get started so we'll see you in an hour and you can just let yourself in.

**FRANK.** It was a pleasure meeting you.

**JEANIE.** I'll say. (*FRANK lets himself out.*)

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Don't tell her about the contest.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Yes, yes, tell her.

**LACY.** There's a new singing contest I want to audition for.

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**JEANIE.** Top Teen Talent?

**LACY.** You know it!

**JEANIE.** Yes. Auditions are next month.

**LACY.** So, if I get to audition, I wanna sing...

**JEANIE.** (*Interrupting.*) “A Brighter Tomorrow”.

**LACY.** How’d you know?

**JEANIE.** Cause every single student I have wants to sing that song and the judges are really sick of it, so no, sorry, you need to find something fresh.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** And you thought that was YOUR song.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Well, nobody sings it as good as you!

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Grammar alert: “As well as you.”

**LACY.** But... but I love that song.

**JEANIE.** I know, but trust me on this. You need to find another song.

**LACY.** What if I’ve been singing wrong? Could I have ruined my voice forever?

**MONKEY CRAZY.** No, it means you’re gonna be a famous blues singer.

**LACY.** Brandon said if my voice is sore, ever, I could have damaged my voice and gotten...

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Nodes.

**LACY.** Nodes.

**JEANIE.** Or maybe you just practiced too hard for too long.

**LACY.** But I won’t get nodes if I do everything right, right?

**JEANIE.** Absolutely, now, one thing at a time, Okay? First rule...

### Song 5: “Singing Lesson”

**JEANIE.** (*sings*)

IN SINGING AS IN LIFE  
SUPPORT IS THE KEY  
IT'S LIKE HAVING ROOTS  
IF YOU WERE A TREE  
IT'S LIKE HAVING WINGS  
IF YOU WERE A DOVE

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

IT'S THE LOVE THAT YOU SHARE  
WITH THE ONE THAT YOU LOVE  
I'LL NEED YOUR FOCUS  
AND I'LL NEED YOUR TRUST  
SO FOLLOW MY LEAD  
AND FOLLOW YOU MUST

**LACY.**  
I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU ASK ME TO DO

**JEANIE.** Good!  
PRETEND YOU'RE ON THE TOILET  
TRYING TO POO!

**LACY.** Sorry What?!?

**JEANIE.** Flex your muscles. Like you're trying to poo. SSS SSS SSS  
Like a snake.

*LACY does.*

**JEANIE.** That's it Lacy!  
I'LL TEACH YOU WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW  
'TIL YOU'RE FEELING THE FLOW  
SO LET'S GET ON WITH THE SHOW  
CAUSE HERE WE GO!  
BE A SNAKE AND A CAT AND A  
FISH AND A DUCK AND A COW  
AND YOU WON'T GET HOARSE  
THE MORE THAT YOU PRACTICE  
YOU KNOW IT'S A MATTER OF COURSE

*(Jeanie demonstrates, up pretty, down ugly, in the nose.)*

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

DO DO DO DO DO - MEOW!

Now you try.

**LACY.**

DO DO DO DO DO - MEOW!

**JEANIE.** Good, okay so that was head voice into a mix voice, now we're gonna lower your chest voice. Puff out your cheeks like a blow fish. (Going down with a dark tone, with puffy cheeks.)

BLOW BLOW BLOW BLOW BLOW

**LACY.** BLOW BLOW BLOW BLOW BLOW

**JEANIE.** Good, okay, Now we're gonna slide from a chest voice up to into a head voice.

MOOOOO A (*A dark pretty head sound sliding up 5 notes higher to an open throated "a" sound.*)

**LACY.** (*Copies.*) OOOOO a (*LACY giggles.*)

**JEANIE.**

YOU DARKEN YOUR TONE BY DROPPING YOUR JAW  
YOU BRIGHTEN YOUR TONE BY SMILING HA HA  
YOU FIND YOUR HIGH MIX, BY THINKING THIRD EYE  
IF YOU'RE IN YOUR HEAD YOU CAN REACH THE SKY

**JEANIE.** Okay... Broadway mix, all in the cheek bones.

**LACY.** LA LA LA LA LA LA

**JEANIE.** Mouth sound

**LACY.** (*Higher.*)

OW, OW, OW, OW, OW, OW, OW

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**JEANIE.** Head sound

**LACY.** (*Higher.*)

Do Do DO DO DO DO DO DO (*Croaks on high note.*)

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** You suck!

**LACY.**

IT'S NEVER QUITE RIGHT  
I TRY AND TRY BUT IT'S JUST AWFUL  
NEVER QUITE RIGHT  
I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS GOSPEL

**MONKEY NEGATIVE & CRAZY.**

YOUR'E SO DUMB YOU GET THE BOOBIE PRIZE

**LACY.** EVERY TIME I HIT A NOTE IT DIES

**JEANIE.** No...

ONLY ONE NOTE, YOU WERE RIGHT ON ALL THE REST  
DON'T GET DEPRESSED, COME ON NOW

**JEANIE, LACY & MONKEYS**

BE A SNAKE AND A CAT AND A  
FISH AND A DUCK AND A COW  
AND YOU WON'T GET HOARSE  
IT'S THE NATURAL WAY  
LEARNING FROM THE SOURCE  
THE MORE THAT YOU SING YOU'RE A FORCE  
THE MORE THAT YOU PRACTICE YOU KNOW  
IT'S A MATTER OF COURSE, A MATTER OF COURSE,  
A MATTER OF COURSE

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**JEANIE.** That was so great.

**LACY.** That was weird.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** But you're scared.

**LACY.** I'll have to be great and I'm afraid I'll never be great.

**JEANIE.** Stop planting negative seeds in the Universe and... you don't have to be great. That's a ridiculous thought to even think.

*We HEAR a knock, FRANK arrives.*

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Talk about a negative seed.

**FRANK.** Am I early?

**JEANIE.** No, no, no. Boy, you are right on time. So, that was the lesson. Do you still like to sing?

**LACY.** I love to sing!

**FRANK.** How was the lesson?

**LACY.** *(Lacy hits a high a cappella note.)*

**I LOVE TO SING!**) *(LACY runs up to Frank and hugs him, jumping up and down.)*

**LACY.** Dad this is so cool. Jeanie taught me so much in just one lesson.

**FRANK.** *(To Lacy.)* Wow! I haven't seen you this happy in a long time.

**JEANIE.** She's doing great and she's not hurting her voice.

**LACY.** Good enough to win the contest.

**JEANIE.** Maybe, maybe. If you practice the way I told you.

**LACY.** Oh daddy, can't I come again? Please, Please.

**JEANIE.** She's really, really, good. I'll give her lessons for half price if that'll help. *(JEANIE sees the look of disapproval on Franks face and hurriedly says.)* Okay a scholarship!

**LACY.** Dad! I'll get a job, I'll get two jobs, I'll work on weekends, and I won't let my grades drop I swear.

**FRANK.** No, no, no, that's very generous, but no. I'll find a way for a few more lessons.

**LACY.** *(Jumping on Frank.)* I love you, I love you, I love you!

**FRANK.** Okay, so ah... Same time next week then?



## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**JEANIE.** That'll work. (*FRANK leaves. Lights go black and come on again.*)

**MONKEY CRAZY.** (*Announces.*) One Week Later!

**LACY.** (*sings*)

DO DO DO DO DO DO DO

### TRANSITION

**JEANIE.** Fabulous Lacy! In just one week you've accomplished so much! Because of me. (*She laughs.*) So what have you decided to sing?

**LACY.** (*Bummed.*) I can't find a song as good as "Brighter Tomorrow".

**JEANIE.** (*Laughs.*) Oh please, there are so many great songs in the world. Between your mom, dad, you and I, we'll find one.

**LACY.** My mother's in heaven.

**JEANIE.** Oh... Oh honey I'm so sorry.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Empty word, sorry.

**JEANIE.** (*Upbeat.*) But you know what? Your mother just might help you anyway.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Looney tunes!

**JEANIE.** She could be right here with us now.

**LACY.** How?

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Maybe she's here but you just can't see her!

**JEANIE.** Okay, do you see electricity?

**LACY.** No.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Just what you need, a physics lesson.

**JEANIE.** But you know it exists. Do you see the waves that go through the air to give you your picture on TV?

**LACY.** No.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** We have cable.

**JEANIE.** You know that molecules are made of atoms and atoms are made of energy.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Got straight A's in science.

**LACY.** Yeah. I learned that in science

**JEANIE.** All right, so if everything is energy who's to say that your mother's energy didn't just change frequencies and still exists?

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Spooks, she's talking about spooks.

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**LACY.** You mean like... a ghost?

**JEANIE.** Or... a spirit. (*LACY quickly looks around.*)

**LACY.** I wish she were here but how would she tell me what song to sing?

**JEANIE.** Well, you have to shut down your Monkey Mind and listen to your inner GPS.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Let's get outta here before we catch what she's got.

**LACY.** My inner GPS?

**JEANIE.** Your guts.

**LACY.** How do you do that?

### Song 6: "Answers"

**JEANIE.**

NOT SO MANY YEARS AGO I WAS SUCH A FOOL  
I HUNG OUT WITH A NASTY CROWD  
BELIEVING IT WAS COOL  
WELL I SAW SOME THING AND I DID SOME THINGS  
I ALWAYS WILL REGRET  
I FELT MY LIFE WAS OVER BUT SOMETHING SAID, NOT YET

**LACY.** What did you do?

**JEANIE.**

I READ ABOUT RELIGIONS  
STUDIED ALL THE STARS  
THE DOGMAS AND PHILOSOPHIES  
THAT DIFFER SO FROM OURS  
MY QUESTIONS NEEDED ANSWERS  
BUT NO ONE COULD AGREE  
SO I LOOKED INSIDE INSTEAD OF OUT  
AND FOUND WHAT WORKS FOR ME.

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**LACY.** Well, what do you do, Tell me!

**JEANIE.**

I KEEP MY EARS OPEN I KEEP MY EYES OPEN  
MY HEART AND MY SOUL AND MY MIND OPEN  
FOR WHATEVER THERE MAY BE  
UNTIL THE ANSWERS COME TO ME.

I'M OPEN TO THE MESSAGES  
I HEAR HERE AND THERE  
HOPIN' THAT THE MESSAGES  
ARE CLEAR HERE AND THERE  
I'LL TALK TO STRAY DOGS  
HUG AN OLD TREE  
IS THAT STRANGE?

**LACY/MONKEYS.** Yes!

**JEANIE.**

AT LEAST IT WORKS FOR ME  
THOUGH I FAIL SOMETIME  
I SUCCEED SOMETIMES  
AND MOSTLY I GET WHAT I NEED  
WELL SOMETIMES  
AND WHERE EVER THEY MAY BE  
THE ANSWERS COME TO ME  
THE ANSWERS COME TO ME  
THE ANSWERS COME  
THE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS I CAN'T ANSWER  
WELL THEY'RE OUT THERE IF YOU LISTEN  
AND THEY COME TO ME, AND THEY COME TO ME

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**LACY.** Like... if a song keeps going over and over in your head?

**JEANIE.** Yes, exactly.

**LACY.** One with Me! (*LACY jumps a little, looking over her shoulder.*)

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** That's her, she's here!

**LACY.** I swear... I just felt three taps on my shoulder. Mom and dad used to tap each other's shoulder to say I love you. (Looking around) Mom? Mom? (*JEANIE smiles, nods her head.*)

**LACY.** Do you think that's Momma telling me that's the song she wants me to sing?

**JEANIE.** That's what I would think.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Too bad Brandon's singing it.

**LACY.** But... Is Brandon singing it for the contest?

**JEANIE.** (*Laughs.*) Hardly. Oh, don't get me wrong he could be a great singer if he'd just practice... but he doesn't, so if you like the song that much, ask him if you can sing it.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** He's not gonna let you sing his song.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** You could make it a hit.

**LACY.** What if I ask him and he says no?

*MONKEYS ripple "NO".*

**JEANIE.** Then we'll find another song.

*LACY from here on getting more and more frantic.*

**LACY.** But if I don't find a song soon I won't have time to learn it.

**JEANIE.** We have plenty of time.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Can't sing good if you don't know it.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Nothing's ever easy.

**LACY.** I'll never find another song this late. Why does everything have to be so hard.

**JEANIE.** It doesn't.

**LACY.** Why can't anything be easy?

**JEANIE.** Lacy stop!

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**LACY.** Stop what?

**JEANIE.** Honey! Nothing good comes from worry.

**LACY.** But I worry about everything.

**JEANIE.** Ya, I've noticed. You have got a Monkey Mind young lady.

**LACY.** What's a Monkey Mind?

**JEANIE.** An over active mind that can't focus.

*Monkeys do "See no evil, hear evil, speak no evil", signs.*

**LACY.** I don't get it.

**JEANIE.** Okay, well put it this way, if you drop a pebble into a clear, calm lake, you see every ripple, right?

**LACY.** Right!

**JEANIE.** But if you drop a pebble into an ocean wave, you see nothing. So it's kinda like your brain, like your mind is an ocean wave right now, and your intuition can not possibly get through. And you always want to listen to your intuition. Your inner GPS, remember?

**LACY.** (*LACY looks at her phone.*) Oh no! Have to go. Bye Jeanie

**JEANIE.** . (*Shakes her head in exasperation as LACY runs out.*) Okay kiddo, have a good one.

### SCENE 5

*Lacy's House. LACY, FRANK and MONKEYS enter. MONEKY. CRAZY crosses stage..*

**MONKEY CRAZY.** (*Announces*) Lacy's house.

**LACY.** Daddy... I think mom told me the song to sing, you know how you and mom use to tap each other on the shoulder to say, "I love you?" Daddy, what's wrong?

**FRANK.** What I've been expecting, the paper let me go.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** (*Like a gun*) Bang!

**FRANK.** So you won't be able to have any more lessons Lacy.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Bang!

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**LACY.** But daddy...

**FRANK.** Don't daddy me right now, okay? I'm not in the mood.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Jeanie'd give you half priced lessons.

**LACY.** Oh okay, but maybe Jeanie, would give me lessons for half price or let me owe her.

**FRANK.** We don't take charity.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** He's always so negative.

**LACY.** It wouldn't be charity. I'd pay her back.

**FRANK.** No.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** Mr. Negative.

**LACY.** But, if I could win...

**FRANK.** (*Talking over her.*) And don't keep talking about that stupid contest. Just go to your room, just go to your room please.

**LACY.** (*Furious.*) I liked you a lot better when mom was here. (*LACY stomps out of the room.*)

### Song 7: "I Keep Expecting You Reprise"

FRANK (*sings*)

HELLO AGAIN MY LOVE  
I'M NOT DOING VERY WELL  
I'M ANGRY ALL THE TIME  
JUST LIVING FEELS LIKE HELL  
ALL THE THINGS THAT USED TO MAKE ME LAUGH  
JUST MAKE ME NUMB AND SAD  
BUT LACY KEEPS ON TRUCKING  
NOT LIKE HER DEADBEAT DAD  
A STRONGER SOUL THAN I FOR SURE  
I FEEL SO IMMATURE

NOW I SEE I'M HURTING HER  
SHE'S TRYING TO SURVIVE  
AND I DON'T WANT TO BE ALIVE

## MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

I'VE GOT TO STOP HURTING HER  
NOW I WILL PROMISE YOU, I'LL BE A BETTER MAN  
I'LL LET HER DREAM, AND HELP HER FIND A PLAN

*LACY comes back in.*

**FRANK.** Lacy I'm sorry. You're mother made me be a better man and now that she's not here, I just have to remember.

**LACY.** She helped me be a better daughter too. I'm sorry, I'm sorry,

**FRANK.** It's not your fault. It's not your fault.

**LACY.** Ya, sure,

**FRANK.** Hey, listen, at least now I can drive you to the audition.

**LACY.** No... forget it.

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** With Jeanie's help, you'd win for sure.

**MONKEY CRAZY.** No manager, no record deal.

**MONKEY NEGATIVE.** You'll be a Bag lady!

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** You really need a band!

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Garages have bands!

**MONKEY POSITIVE.** Form a band with...

**MONKEYS.** Brannnnnnnnnndon!

**FRANK.** Why, forget it?

**LACY.** Because we can't afford lessons and there's no time anyway and I'd have to get background music and a manager and a new outfit...

*MONKEYE'S babble in cacophony.*

**FRANK.** *(Interrupting.)* Stop! That's quite a list young lady.

**LACY.** I know. It's too much.

**FRANK.** Now you're sounding like me, Mr. "So depressed."

**LACY.** *(Laughs.)* Yeah, it's a curse.

**FRANK.** You know what I think we need to remember? I think we need to remember what your mom used to say..

**LACY.** Pick up the towels?

**FRANK.** No... "Take it one step at a time".

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**MONKEY CRAZY.** Birds can't fly one flap at a time!

**Song 8: "One Step At A Time"**

**FRANK.**

The first ones to climb Mount Everest?

**LACY.** Sir Edmund Hilary and Tenzing Norgay, right?

**FRANK.** Yes!

THEY IMAGINED THEMSELVES AT THE SUMMIT  
AND WITH CARE THEY PREPARED FOR THE WORST  
SO WHEN IT WAS TIME TO ACTUALLY CLIMB  
EVERY STEP THAT THEY MADE WAS REHEARSED  
AND WHEN THEY REACHED THE PEAK  
THEY LOOKED DOWN TO SEE  
THEIR LAST STEP WAS NO BIGGER THAN THEIR FIRST  
IT'S EASY...

ONE STEP AT A TIME  
ONE STEP AT A TIME  
KNOW WHAT YOU WANT  
FOLLOW YOUR HEART  
MAKE OUT A PLAN  
THAT'S A GOOD START  
HOWEVER HIGH YOU WANT IT

**LACY.** ONE STEP AT A TIME

**FRANK.** That's right! Now it's Daddy's turn to jump on the furniture.

NOW BEETHOVEN WAS A COMPOSER  
WHO TURNED DEAF AS YOU MAY HAVE READ

**LACY.** Yeah, I read that.

**FRANK.**



MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

SINCE HE COULDN'T HEAR HIS PIANO  
HE PLANNED EVERY NOTE IN HIS HEAD  
WHEN THEY ASKED HIM HOW HE  
WROTE SO EFFORTLESSLY  
HE COMPOSED HIMSELF FIRST, AND HE SAID:

**FRANK.** “Ein tritt fur tritt”

**LACY.** What?

**FRANK.** He spoke German.

ONE STEP AT A TIME  
ONE STEP AT A TIME

**LACY.** Oh!

**FRANK.**

AND YOU CAN WRITE A SYMPHONY

**LACY.**

ONE STEP AT A TIME  
ONE STEP AT A TIME  
BE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO BE

**FRANK.** That’s right!

YOU CAN MAKE MUSIC SO SUBLIME - TAKE IT!

**LACY.**

ONE STEP AT A TIME!

**FRANK.** Okay, so what's the goal?

**LACY.** I want to win the singing contest.

**FRANK.** All right, so what do you need to do to get there?

**LACY.** I could get a job after school to pay for lessons?

**FRANK.**

LET'S THINK ABOUT WHAT WOULD BE APROPOS

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

SOMETHING YOU COULD DO THAT YOU ALREADY KNOW

**LACY.** Well, I'm just a kid so what can I do?

**FRANK.**

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING THAT YOU PUT YOUR MIND TO  
TAKE THE FIRST STEP AND THE VERY NEXT ONE  
AND IT'S STEP BY STEP TILL THE JOB GETS DONE

**FRANK.** You'll be amazed what you can do, Lacy!

**FRANK & LACY.**

ONE STEP AT A TIME, ONE STEP AT A TIME

**LACY.**

I COULD WORK AFTER SCHOOL  
IRONING CLOTHES  
FOR ALL OUR NEIGHBORS  
AND HEIR "PLEASE HELP ME" BLOGS

**LACY.** I'll be rich!

**FRANK.** Not so fast!

**LACY.**

DIME BY DIME!

**FRANK.** I think you've got it!

**FRANK & LACY.**

ONE STEP, ONE STEP, ONE STEP ONE STEP AT A TIME

**FRANK.** Not so fast! So, what's the very first thing you have to do?

**LACY.** Ah... makes a flyer and put it up in the neighborhood?

MONKEY MIND: A MUSICAL

**FRANK.** Great idea! Can you do that?

**LACY.** Sure!

**FRANK.** So, you're going to hold down a job, does this contest and keep your grades up?

**LACY.** Yes.

**FRANK.** Straight A's?

**LACY.** Straight A's.

*FRANK exits.*

***THE PLAY IS NOT OVER!! TO FIND OUT HOW IT ENDS—  
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